

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 14195 031734Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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-----078531 041006Z /11

R 031728Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0842
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14195

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, US
SUBJECT: UGANDA: CABINET RESHUFFLE

REFERENCE: BONN 13605

1. THE FRG EMBASSY IN KAMPALA HAS SENT THE FOREIGN
OFFICE THE FOLLOWING REPORT CONCERNING THE DISMISSAL
FROM OFFICE OF MOSES ALI.

BEGIN TEXT:

AFTER HIS RETURN FROM THE OAU SUMMIT IN KHARTOUM
ON JULY 26, PRESIDENT AMIN REMOVED FROM OFFICE FINANCE
MINISTER MOSES ALI. MOSES ALI, WHO AS A BRIGADIER
GENERAL IN THE ARMY ALSO HAD CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT
THERE, WAS ALSO DISMISSED FROM THE MILITARY. AMIN
JUSTIFIED ALI'S DISMISSAL BY CLAIMING THAT HE HAD
BEEN FAVORING CERTAIN GROUPS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF
CURRENCY. THIS ALLEGEDLY LED TO GREAT INDIGNATION
AMONG THE PEOPLE "OUTCRY OF THE MASSES." WITH ALI'S
DISMISSAL, PRESIDENT AMIN HAS SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING
THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THE "NUBIANS," A GROUP WHICH
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AMIN FELT HAD BECOME TOO INFLUENTIAL. IN VIEW OF
ALI'S SUPPORT WITHIN THE MILITARY, IT WAS FOR SOME
TIME DOUBTFUL WHETHER AMIN WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN
REMOVING HIM.

AT THE MOMENT, THE QUESTION OF MOSES ALI'S
SUCCESSOR IS UNCLEAR. THE PRESENT MINISTER OF PLANNING,

MASAGAZI (A MOSLEM CIVILIAN) IS GENERALLY THOUGHT TO BE THE FRONT RUNNER. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT EXISTING PLANS TO MERGE THE FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT MINISTRIES WILL BE REACTIVATED.

PAUL ETIANG, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS AND MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION, WILL PROBABLY ALSO GIVE UP HIS CABINET POST IN VIEW OF HIS ELECTION AS ONE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE OAU. IF THIS OCCURS, UGANDA WILL LOSE A MINISTER, WHO BECAUSE OF HIS EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY, IS IN THE BEST POSITION ADEQUATELY TO REPRESENT UGANDA IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS. NOURNEY. END TEXT.
MEEHAN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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